

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment, Property & Health Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Cllr. T. Bloomfield  
 Cllr. H. Cadd  
 Cllr. P. Collins  
 Cllr. J. Harvey  
 Cllr. P. Hirons  
 Cllr. D. Isham (Vice Chairman)  
 Cllr. A. Mahi  
 Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue  
 Cllr. M. Smith (Chairman)  
 Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury

**In attendance:** Mrs. C. Bolton Committee Clerk  
 Mr. L. Phillips Green Spaces Manager

### **334/13 Apologies for Absence**

**RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Newell, apologies had also been received in the office from Cllr Whyte.

### **335/13 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting. Cllr Strain-Clark declared an interest in item 11 as a member of Access for All Group at that point in the meeting.

### **336/13 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013, which had been ratified at Full Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2013.

*Cllr Collins arrived during the following item*

### **337/13 Action Reports**

Members received the Action Report. The Green Spaces Manager updated Councillors as follows -

222/13 Church Hill land ownership – The Green Spaces Manager apologised this item had not been progressed, but will chase up as soon as possible.

223/13 Circular Walk Path – Pricing from contractors for the repairs to the path was due in shortly.

868/11 East Chapel – The Green Spaces Manager would be attending a meeting with the contractor on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

94/13 Bowls Club Rent Review – a letter has been sent detailing the increase in rent as agreed.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER/OCTOBER AGENDA**

**338/13 Budgets**

Members received the budget information.

**339/13 Consultation – Changes to Paying for Care**

Noted.

**340/13 AVDC Tree Planting Consultation 2013**

Members received the information and held a brief discussion on the type and positions of trees proposed. The Green Spaces Manager noted that one replacement tree in the Cattle Pens area had not been included – he would inform the AVDC Tree Officer. Councillors **AGREED** the document.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**341/13 Bus stop**

A written report from the Green Spaces Manager was received regarding a proposed new bus stand for Moreton Rd. Members **AGREED** the recommendation therein to proceed with the Shelter Solutions 'Cantilever' design.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

*Members deviated from Agenda order*

Councillors went on to question what had happened to the larger bus shelter promised by AVDC to replace the existing one in the Cattle Pens. The Green Spaces Manager advised Members that AVDC had carried out a 'deep clean' to the shelter and a replacement would not be provided. Councillors discussed the solution was inadequate and requested the Green Spaces Manager write to Bernard Pratt of AVDC to query why a replacement had not been provided.

Councillors also agreed a second letter be written to Stage Coach to encourage pressure on AVDC to provide an adequate shelter for their bus services through the town.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

*Agenda item order was resumed*

**342/13 Bourton Park**

342.1 Members received a written report on the Management Plan for the pond system. Councillors **AGREED** Company C, as per the recommendation.

342.2 A written report regarding proposals for a Trim Trail was received. Councillors discussed the options of a concentrated fitness area or that of a Trim Trail style which would encourage users to move around the park, with signposting at the entrance and between pieces of equipment.

Members **AGREED** the recommendation to consult widely on the type of equipment to be identified, including a news release and displaying web site information.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**343/13 Chandos Park**

(732/12) Councillors held a debate to now consider the renewal of the path in Chandos Park, which had been suspended some 6 months previously.

Members discussed the re-tendering of the works, and some of the detail that should be included in such a tender.

A recorded vote was called for.

Cllrs Smith, Cadd, Strain-Clark, Hiron, Mahi, O'Donoghue, Stuchbury and Isham – FOR

Cllrs Harvey and Collins – AGAINST

The decision to proceed with the re-tender was carried.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

*Cllr Strain-Clark declared an interest in the following item*

### **344/13 Cemetery**

Correspondence from the Access for All Group was received.

The Green Spaces Manager informed Members that the specific concerns raised about the grave mentioned in the document had been investigated. The stone was still very strong and stable, penetrating into the ground by approximately 2'. The tap and drain had also been repaired.

Members discussed that some damage caused by equipment used in the graveyard was difficult to prevent; machinery now operated to maintain the cemetery had not been available when the original parts of the cemetery had been constructed. Councillors **AGREED** that the Green Spaces Manager look into pricing options for a one main new path down the centre of the cemetery, and also options for replacing all the paths.

The Green Spaces Manager also confirmed that memorial testing would be scheduled as soon as possible.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

### **345/13 Roundabout Sponsorship**

A report from the Green Spaces Manager was received. Councillors considered the suggested increases, but concluded that further investigation into comparative local sponsoring, such as those charged by Bucks County Council should be considered – rather than those quoted in the report. In-depth costing was requested.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

### **346/13 Voluntary Green Space Wardens and Dog Issues**

A written report was received. Councillors discussed the benefits of running an event to promote responsible dog ownership; incorporating local organisations offering services to dog owners such as behavioural training and veterinary assistance; and agreed in general terms that an event of this nature would be beneficial.

Councillors went on to consider the report's recommendation regarding voluntary wardens. Councillors **AGREED** to take forward the report's recommendations, of a possible dog event and introduction of park wardens. A press release would be amended to include requests for 'Park Friends'.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER/CLLR SMITH**

**347/13 Correspondence**

(734/12, 222/13) Bristle Hill land ownership. A response from the Tree Officer was noted.

**348/13 NHS Clinical Response**

A response from Lin Hazell, Chairman of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Bucks County Council was received. Councillors were very pleased to note a positive response and action by the Clinical Commissioning Group following Members comments.

**349/13 Green Buckingham Group**

349.1 Minutes of the Green Buckingham Group held on 16<sup>th</sup> July were noted.  
349.2 Minutes of the Buckingham Community Wildlife Project held on 28<sup>th</sup> May were noted.

**350/13 News releases**

Dogs in parks and park wardens

**351/13 Chair's Announcements**

The Chairman and Cllr Bloomfield offered lifts to Members for the forthcoming funeral of Denis Granville.

**352/13 Date of Next Meeting.**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

Meeting closed at: 7.55pm

Chairman..... Date.....